

## Section 1

## Measures for Each Priority Issue

This section introduces Japan's recent efforts relating to the three priority issues of: "1. 'Quality growth' and poverty eradication through such growth"; "2. Sharing universal values and realizing a peaceful and secure society"; and "3. Building a sustainable and resilient international community through efforts to address global challenges."

## 1. "Quality Growth" and Poverty Eradication through such Growth

Across the world, there is still a large number of people suffering from poverty. Eradicating poverty in the world is the most fundamental development challenge. In particular, it is important to provide both assistance from a humanitarian point of view for fragile states that have not been able to grasp the opportunities for development for different reasons, and assistance designed to set the development process in motion and overcome vulnerability. At the same time, in order to resolve the poverty issue in a sustainable manner, it is essential to achieve economic growth through self-reliant development of developing countries.

Such growth is not simply quantitative economic

growth. It must be "quality growth" that is: "inclusive" in that the fruits of growth are shared within society as a whole, leaving no one behind; "sustainable" in that growth can be sustained in harmony with society and the environment; and "resilient" against economic crises, natural disasters and other shocks.

These are some of the challenges Japan tackled in its postwar history. Japan takes advantage of its own experience, expertise and technology as well as lessons learned in order to provide assistance to realize "quality growth" and poverty eradication through such growth.

### 1-1 Assistance Necessary to Secure the Foundations and the Driving Force for Economic Growth

#### (1) Development of Industrial Infrastructure and Industries, and Economic Policy

To achieve "quality growth," it is important to improve the socio-economic infrastructure that serves as the foundation for the development of developing countries.

In addition, it is key that the private sector plays a central role. In particular, it is essential to boost private-sector activities, such as the development of industries and

the expansion of trade and investment.

In developing countries beset by a variety of challenges, it can sometimes be difficult to develop capacities or set in place an environment for promoting trade and attracting private investment. Therefore, support from the international community is required.

#### <Japan's Efforts>

Japan develops quality infrastructure that leads to quality growth in developing countries and regions, in line with their economic and development strategies, and trains human resources to manage and operate this infrastructure. Japan's strength lies in developing infrastructure that is truly useful for "quality growth" in developing countries, which includes technology transfers and employment creation in partner countries. Specific infrastructure development is carried out on roads, ports, airports, and information and communications technology (ICT). Such infrastructure contributes to the expansion of exchanges between urban and rural areas, ensures security in case of disasters, and promotes trade with and investment from overseas countries. Other important Japanese efforts that lead to "quality growth" in developing countries include the development of social infrastructure, which contributes to ensuring education, health, safe water, hygienic environment, and housing, as well as better access

to hospitals and schools, together with the development of agricultural and fishery markets, and fishing ports



Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida vows to contribute to strengthening regional connectivity through efforts to promote "quality infrastructure," at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting held in November 2015.

to revitalize local economies. Additionally, Japanese public and private sectors collaborate to assist with the development of infrastructure systems that include engineering, construction, maintenance, and operation of infrastructure, along with the development of facilities and equipment. These initiatives also contribute to promoting infrastructure system exports.\*

Demand for development in emerging countries, namely those in Asia, is still expected to be large, especially with regard to infrastructure development. In this regard, promoting quality infrastructure investment that utilizes Japan's accumulated technology and experience will contribute to ensure that Japan will continue its growth together with developing countries. Furthermore, this will lead to expanding markets through development of partner countries, to forging international friendships, and to strengthening partnerships. (For more on "quality infrastructure investment," see ODA Topics on pages 42–43.)

### ● Improving the Trade and Investment Climate

Japan utilizes ODA and Other Official Flows (OOF)\* to support the advancement of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), transfer of Japan's industrial technology, and formulation of economic policies in developing countries. In addition, Japan supports the development of the trade and investment climate and economic infrastructures in order to enhance the export capabilities and competitiveness of developing countries.

The Doha Round Negotiations (the Doha Development Agenda)\* of the World Trade Organization (WTO), which started in 2001, also emphasizes the promotion of development through participation in the multilateral free trading system by developing countries. Japan has contributed to the trust fund set up within the WTO with an aim to improve the capacity of developing countries to engage in trade negotiations and participate in the global market, thereby



A JICA Expert, Ms. Asami Nakata provides instruction to customs officials at the Customs Department, Ministry of Finance of Myanmar as they handle a busy flow of import-export applications from customs clearing agents. (Photo: Hiroshi Yokoyama)



People waiting at the platform of Light Rail Transit (LRT) Line 1 in Metro Manila, the Philippines. Under the Capacity Enhancement of Mass Transit Systems in Metro Manila Project, for which an ODA Loan Agreement was signed in 2013, Japan will provide assistance for extending LRT Line 1 and LRT Line 2. (Photo: Harvey Tapan)

gaining the ability to implement the WTO agreements.

Regarding access to the Japanese market, Japan has implemented the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP),<sup>1</sup> which applies lower tariff rates, in order to encourage imports of products from developing countries. Specifically, Japan provides duty-free quota-free access\* for Least Developed Countries (LDCs)\*. In addition, Japan also actively promotes Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs),\* and tries to create an environment for economic growth in developing countries through liberalization of trade and investment.

In recent years, active discussions regarding Aid for Trade (Aft)\* have taken place at various international organizations, including the WTO and the OECD as a means of further promoting support by developed countries, including Japan. Japan provides funds for the development of transportation networks vital to trade, including ports, roads, and bridges, as well as for projects to construct power plants and power grids, etc. Japan has also provided technical cooperation in trade-related areas, including training of customs officials and intellectual property rights experts.

Japan also provides assistance to small-scale production groups and small companies in developing countries for the One Village, One Product Campaign.\* In addition, Japan supports developing countries in attracting private sector investment by identifying issues unique to those countries, and recommending measures to promote investment.

The Bali Package\* achieved at the Ninth WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2013 incorporates trade facilitation. It is desirable that the Trade Facilitation

Note 1: This system applies tariff rates lower than the MFN rates (preferential tariff rates) to designated agricultural and fishery products and industrial products imported from developing countries, in order to increase export income and promote industrialization and economic development in developing countries.



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Masakazu Hamachi attends the Fiji-Japan Trade and Investment Seminar held in December 2015. At the seminar, the participants discussed the importance of promotion of trade and investment between Japan and the Pacific island nations confirmed at the Seventh Pacific Islands Leaders Meeting (PALM7).

### ● Assistance for Domestic Resource Mobilization

For developing countries to take ownership of their quality growth by resolving various development issues, it is critical that developing countries ensure tax revenue collection. This is known as “domestic resource mobilization.” Its importance has been noted at the discussion fora of the UN, OECD, G20, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). This issue was also taken up in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015 and represents the new international development goals from 2016 through 2030.

Japan, together with the international organizations and other entities concerned, engages in discussions regarding domestic resource mobilization and provides relevant technical cooperation to developing countries. For example, Japan proactively provides technical cooperation to developing countries for improving their tax administration. In 2014, Japan dispatched National Tax Agency personnel as trainers on topics including taxpayer services, international taxation, and personnel training, to China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Cambodia, among other countries. In addition, Japan hosts many officials from developing countries for training in Japan that includes lectures regarding Japan’s overall taxation system

Agreement\* enters into force and is implemented at an early date. Japan has heretofore assisted developing countries with trade facilitation, and will continue to extend proactive support utilizing its knowledge and experience.

The theme of the Fifth WTO Global Review of Aid for Trade in July 2015 was “Reducing Trade Costs for Inclusive, Sustainable Growth.” Japan introduced examples of its development cooperation that encouraged trade facilitation, helped build international production and distribution networks, and contributed to the economic growth of developing countries and regions. These examples were appreciated by member states. Furthermore, as a case of technical cooperation of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan provides support for Japanese companies to expand their businesses abroad, including the fostering of industrial human resources, employment promotion, and securing of sophisticated local talent, through corporate culture courses, job fairs, and other means organized in collaboration with local universities and other actors.

and tax administration.

As regards programs implemented with international organizations, Japan, for example, provides assistance for the OECD Global Relations Programme. This programme dispatches to developing countries OECD experts on the relevant fields to conduct seminars and lectures to deepen the countries’ understanding of taxation systems and tax enforcement, including tax treaties<sup>2</sup> and investigation of the taxes of multinational enterprises. In addition, Japan provides cooperation on the human resource, expertise, and financing fronts for IMF’s technical assistance in the field of taxation. In February 2015, Japan co-hosted with ADB a seminar in Tokyo aimed at improving the legal and administrative frameworks and practices related to information exchanges for taxation purposes. Many practitioners from developing countries attended the seminar.

To ensure that developing countries collect taxes in their countries with certainty, it is critical that corporate transparency is enhanced and economic activities can be taxed appropriately in places where such activities are taking place. From this perspective, the outcomes of the OECD/G20 BEPS Project\* compiled in October 2015 will be beneficial for strengthening domestic resource mobilization in developing countries.

Note 2: Bilateral treaties for avoiding the double taxation of and preventing the evasion of taxes on income.



## ● Finance

A sound and stable financial system, coupled with smooth financial and capital markets, form an essential foundation for the sustainable economic development of developing countries. As financial globalization advances, it is pivotal that financial systems in emerging countries are properly established and that assistance is provided for the development of sound financial markets.

In October and November 2014 and March 2015, the Financial Services Agency (FSA) invited officials in banking, security, and insurance regulatory authorities from developing countries in Asia. FSA officials and others conducted training regarding Japan's regulatory and supervision systems, as well as programs for banking, securities, and insurance, respectively.

### Glossary

#### Infrastructure system exports

Infrastructure system exports refer to the concept of not only exporting equipment for development of infrastructure such as electricity, railways, water, and roads overseas, but also exporting "systems," which include engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of infrastructure.

At the Ministerial Meeting on Strategy relating to Infrastructure Export and Economic Cooperation, development cooperation efforts are coordinated among the relevant ministries and agencies; relevant organizations such as the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), and the Nippon Export and Investment Insurance (NEXI); companies; and local governments.

#### Other Official Flows (OOF)

OOF refers to flows of funds to developing countries from the governments which are not considered to be ODA because the main purpose is not development. Examples include export credit, direct investment by governmental financial institutions, and financing of international organizations.

#### Doha Round Negotiations (the Doha Development Agenda)

Doha Round Negotiations are negotiations between multiple WTO members aimed at liberalizing trade in a wide range of fields, including reduction/elimination of tariffs on industrial products and agriculture, forestry and fishery products, and deregulation in the service sector. One of their challenges is the development of developing countries through trade. At the Ninth WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2013, members agreed on such matters as the guidelines on rules of origin for promoting exports of least developed countries (LDCs) and the details of preferential treatment of services exports.

#### Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

LDCs are countries classified by the United Nations to be particularly lagging in development even when compared to other developing countries, based on their income levels. LDCs meet certain criteria, including per capita gross national income (GNI) of \$1,035 or less between 2011 and 2013. As of July 2015, there are 48 countries that have been so designated: 7 in Asia; 2 in the Middle East and North Africa; 34 in Sub-Saharan Africa; 1 in Latin America; and 4 in Oceania (see page 261).

#### Duty-free quota-free access

Duty-free quota-free access means measures implemented by developed countries to eliminate customs duties, quotas, and other obstacles to imports of products from least developed countries (LDCs). Japan has expanded the number of applicable products, and approximately 98% of products exported by LDCs to Japan can be imported without payment of duties and without quotas (as of July 2015).

#### Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)

EPAs are comprehensive economic agreements with specific countries (or regions) that, in addition to free trade agreements (FTAs) that stipulate the liberalization of trade in goods and services such as the reduction/elimination of tariffs, include such areas as movement of people, investment, government procurement, and bilateral cooperation intended to enhance broad economic ties. These agreements are expected to further vitalize trade and investment between countries and contribute to economic growth.

#### Aid for Trade (Aft)

Aft is assistance provided to developing countries to improve trade-related capabilities and to develop infrastructure, for the purpose of assisting developing countries in achieving economic growth through the multilateral trading system under the WTO.

#### One Village, One Product Campaign

One Village, One Product Campaign is overseas utilization of an approach that began in Oita Prefecture, Japan, in 1979. The aim is to create jobs and revitalize the local community by developing unique local products through the utilization of local resources and traditional techniques. Efforts are made to focus on handicrafts, textiles, toys, and other attractive products that display the unique ethnic characteristics of developing countries in Asia and Africa, etc., and reach out to a wider range of people, thereby aiding in the expansion of exports of products from developing countries.

#### Bali Package

The Bali Package is part of the Doha Round negotiations reached at the Ninth WTO Ministerial Conference in Bali in December 2013. The Doha Round negotiations, which started in 2001, have remained deadlocked due to clashes between emerging economies and developed countries, among other reasons. In order to achieve a breakthrough, new approaches have been explored, including the buildup of partial agreements. The Bali Package consists mainly of three fields: (i) Trade facilitation; (ii) Part of the field of agriculture; and (iii) Development. The Package decided to establish a work programme on the remaining issues of the Doha Round negotiations (e.g., agriculture, mining products, and services) by the end of 2014. (Subsequently, the deadline for establishing the work programme was extended to July 2015 at a special meeting of the WTO General Council.)

#### Trade Facilitation Agreement

The Trade Facilitation Agreement provides for the simplification and enhanced transparency of customs procedures aimed at trade promotion. The protocol to make this agreement a part of the WTO Agreement was adopted at a special meeting of the WTO General Council in November 2014. It will enter into force after two-thirds of the member states (108 countries) have ratified it (as of November 4, 2015, 50 countries ratified the agreement). Japan completed the Diet approval procedures in May 2015. If this agreement is concluded, it will become the first multilateral agreement reached by all member states of WTO since its founding in 1995. According to preliminary estimates, the conclusion of the agreement is expected to increase GDP by \$1 trillion annually.

#### OECD/G20 BEPS Project

Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) refers to the issue of multinational enterprises' excessive tax reduction measures that exploit gaps and loopholes in international tax systems, including tax treaties, in order to intentionally lessen the tax burden for economic activities that should have been taxed. To address this issue, the OECD's Committee on Fiscal Affairs chaired by Japan launched the BEPS project in June 2012. The BEPS Action Plan was presented in July 2013, and following two years of discussions, the BEPS Final Reports were released in October 2015. As the project enters its implementation phase ("post-BEPS"), Japan will lead the discussions in cooperation with the OECD, developing countries, and relevant international organizations to ensure that the outcomes of the BEPS project are adhered to by the broader international community.

## Côte d'Ivoire

## Project of the Development of Urban Master Plan in Greater Abidjan Technical Cooperation Project (February 2013 – Ongoing)

Situated in West Africa, Côte d'Ivoire's de facto capital of Abidjan and the surrounding vicinity (Greater Abidjan) have seen an influx of some 3 million refugees and internally displaced persons due to coups and domestic disturbances that have continued for close to 20 years since the 1990s.

As a result, the population of Greater Abidjan has increased sharply to upwards of about 7 million people, and its urban area has sprawled from 500 to 750 square kilometers, forming poor districts in a disorderly way.

Abidjan originally had created an urban plan envisioning a population of around 3.5 million people in 2000. However, domestic disturbances have since caused a population expansion, and the failure of social capital and urban management functions, resulting in a major gap between the plan and the reality. The city has also faced a serious shortage of basic social infrastructure, including schools, healthcare facilities, roads, and the water and sewer system.

At the request of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire, the Government of Japan dispatched a survey team to analyze and assess the urban plan created in 2000, and to help formulate a new, more appropriate urban development plan leading up to 2030 based on the lessons learned.

Japan investigated the feasibility of this new urban plan and drew up a master plan focusing on land use, urban transport development, and arterial road construction for future urban development in Greater Abidjan.

Based on the master plan that Japan proposed, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire then established its Abidjan Urban Development Plan. Under this plan, Abidjan aims to improve urban transport function through the development of an arterial road network, mass transit system and other measures.

In Greater Abidjan, where a specific future vision of the urban plan was set out in cooperation with Japan, the Project for the Improvement of the Japan-Ivorian Friendship Intersection was launched as the first step towards making it a reality. Achievement of sustainable urban development is expected in a manner consistent with Côte d'Ivoire's national development policy. (As of August 2015)



A market in the Aleppo District of Abidjan City.  
(Photo: JICA)

## (2) Vocational Training and Industrial Human Resources Development, and Employment Creation

To achieve quality growth in countries and thereby solve the poverty and other problems that these countries face, it is essential for their populations to acquire the necessary vocational skills. In developing countries, however, opportunities to receive quality education and training are limited. Moreover, ineffective use of human resources is stifling opportunities for earning sufficient incomes. A shortage of appropriate human resources thus poses a major obstacle also to industrial promotion and industry development.

Especially in countries and regions affected by conflict, improving the livelihood of the socially vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, women, and demobilized soldiers, is a critical issue for the reconstruction phase. In this regard, vocational training as a component of the social safety net (a system in which the entire society secures the lives of each and every person) plays a pivotal role.

“Work” constitutes a fundamental activity of mankind

that shapes society. Increasing income by finding a job is an important means for elevating the standard of living of poor people. Nevertheless, a severe employment situation persists, with the number of unemployed in the world reaching approximately 200 million people in 2013. To create stable employment under these circumstances that will lead to poverty reduction, it is an urgent task to prepare for risks by developing social safety nets, as well as to engage in an international effort across countries to realize “decent work.”

Against this backdrop, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which succeeds the MDGs, was adopted at the 70th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2015. Among the SDGs in the Agenda, Goal 8 was established as follows: “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.”

## <Japan's Efforts>

### ● Vocational Training and Industrial Human Resources Development

Based on requests from developing countries to develop human resources who can respond to diverse needs in technology and skills, Japan provides support to leading polytechnic and public vocational training schools which will serve as core centers in each country. In implementing this assistance, Japan, in cooperation with the private sector, supports the capacity building of teachers and trainers, the reinforcement of the operational capacity of training schools, and curriculum improvement, in order to further strengthen the linkages between education and employment. Through 12 projects in eight countries, Japan has contributed to the skills development of persons including women, persons with disabilities, and demobilized soldiers, as well as refugees and persons affected by conflict.

In the area of industrial human resources development, Japan, in collaboration with the industry sector, implemented 50 comprehensive cooperation projects in 27 countries between 2000 and 2015. The projects drew on Japan's insight and know-how for the development and revision of curriculums and teaching materials, along with the capacity enhancement of trainers. Additionally, Japan supported Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions by improving facilities and equipment at 11 schools in six countries.

Japan also implements projects for promoting women's economic empowerment. In Nigeria, Women Development Centres (WDCs) were established throughout the country for providing literacy education and vocational training to women mainly in rural areas. However, many of the WDCs were unable to provide adequate services. At the request of the Government of Nigeria, Japan provided assistance to develop an operating model for the WDCs in Kano State in northern Nigeria. Based on the impacts delivered, Japan is now providing assistance to roll out these outcomes at the national level and ensuring its continuity.

As for the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), it conducts trainings in Japan and primarily Southeast Asian countries<sup>3</sup> with which Japan has expanding and deepening economically interdependent relationships. The trainings are designed to transfer the government's and the private sector's

accumulated know-how regarding Japan's skills evaluation system (Japan's National Trade Skills Test),<sup>4</sup> with a view to developing and securing a quality workforce. In FY2014, a total of 156 people from the seven countries received these trainings, bringing the cumulative total to approximately 1,900 people including trainings conducted in FY2013 and earlier. The trainings are expected to develop and improve skills evaluation systems in these countries, which in turn will promote the development of their skilled workers and elevate their social standing through increased employment opportunities.

In addition, through Japan's contributions (\$96,000) to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the ILO's Skills and Employability Programme in Asia and the Pacific (SKILLS-AP) conducted surveys, studies, seminars, and trainings on vocational training policies, vocational training methods, and vocational training information networks, which were attended by members of governments, employers, and worker organizations in the regional countries.

At the Japan-ASEAN Summit in November 2015, Japan unveiled the Industrial Human Resource Development Cooperation Initiative, aimed at encouraging the development of industrial human resources who contribute to Asia's sustainable growth. Under this initiative, Japan will support the development of industrial human resources in Asia through "All-Japan" collaboration, by grasping human resources development needs through dialogues with each country and strengthening industry-academia-public partnerships.



Then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Takashi Uto (front) visits the Vocational and Technical Training Center (CFPT) Senegal-Japan established with cooperation from Japan in March 2015.

### ● Employment Resources Development

Japan considers job creation to be one approach for reducing poverty, and one of the priorities of Japan's development cooperation. Based on this concept, Japan extends assistance to increase job seekers' abilities to make a living through vocational training. Japan also provides assistance that expands social protection, such as support for creating social

insurance systems and support for realizing occupational safety and health, with a view to achieving "decent work."

In addition, Japan provides voluntary funding to the ILO to implement a job creation project<sup>5</sup> that benefits people affected by the typhoon disaster in the Philippines, as well as to conduct humanitarian assistance in conflict regions in Africa.

Note 3: Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Myanmar, India, Cambodia, and Laos.

Note 4: The trainings consist of two types: (i) "Training for people in charge of creating the test standards and test questions"; and (ii) "Training for people in charge of test implementation and marking." The number of participants indicated above is the total of these trainings combined.

Note 5: The Japanese government's contributions to the ILO will be used to implement the "Integrated Livelihood Recovery for Typhoon Haiyan Affected Communities" project, which will support approximately 20,000 workers including people affected by the typhoon. This project will help rehabilitate public infrastructure, develop vocational skills for offering means of alternative livelihoods, and re-establish micro enterprises and SMEs.

Japan is actively engaged in activities through international organizations and plays a significant role in resolving labour issues throughout the world.

For example, in Baidoa and Kismayo (Somalia), Japan conducts vocational training and creates jobs for internally

displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees who have repatriated from neighboring countries to facilitate their settlement. More specifically, Japan creates employment by implementing programs for IDPs and repatriated refugees to repair roads, markets, and other infrastructure.

## India

### Project on Champions for Societal Manufacturing Technical Cooperation Project (April 2013 – Ongoing)

In recent years, India's economy has grown at a rapid pace. While this growth is driven by ICT and the services industry, development in the manufacturing industry has lagged relatively behind. The manufacturing industry accounts for only around 16% of India's GDP, indicating that its growth potential is not being capitalized upon. The problem is that there are too few business leaders to adequately develop the manufacturing industry. This is because only a low percentage of India's engineering and business administration graduates go on to work in the manufacturing industry.

The development of business leaders in the manufacturing industry is not only important for improving the efficiency of the industry itself, but also for contributing to societal demands for reduced environmental pollution and business expansion with the poor in mind. It is therefore extremely important for the sustainable development of India's manufacturing industry. To address this national issue, the Government of Japan is cooperating with the Government of India to assist the development of industrial human resources and in particular the training of business leaders in the manufacturing industry. The Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing Project was implemented with Japanese support from 2007 to 2013 and successfully developed close to 900 business leaders, who learned Japanese-style manufacturing principles and management approaches.

The Government of India highly appraised this project and presented the Padma Shri Award to Mr. Shoji Shiba, Professor Emeritus at the University of Tsukuba, who had provided instruction as a JICA expert, in 2012. This award is one of India's highest civilian honors and it recognizes people who have contributed greatly to India in various fields. Using the framework of the Visionary Leaders for Manufacturing Project, the Project on Champions for Societal Manufacturing was launched in 2013. This project promotes the development of human resources with the assistance of the almost 900 program graduates.

As part of this project, experts are dispatched from Japan to provide expertise, knowledge and skills for production process improvements across the value chain. This includes training across a wide range of themes related to the challenges faced by India's manufacturing industry as well, such as environmental consideration and inclusive growth. Participants also undergo training in Japan and observe Japanese manufacturing practices in the field. In addition, participants conduct research and presentations about Japanese society and culture.

This project is expected to help enhance India's manufacturing base through Japanese style management approaches. (As of August 2015)



Project participants present successful examples of application of the program at their companies at a seminar. (Photo: JICA)

## Democratic Republic of the Congo

### Projet d'Aménagement de la Direction Provinciale de Kinshasa de l'Institut National de Préparation Professionnelle Grant Aid Project (June 2012 – October 2014)

Located in Central Africa, the Democratic Republic of the Congo has a high unemployment rate, especially among youth. The high unemployment rate in urban areas, where population growth is also high, has led to deteriorating public safety.

The eastern part of the country also faces serious challenges such as improving the livelihood of a vast number of internally displaced persons who have emerged as a result of conflicts in the region and helping ex-combatants reintegrate into society through vocational training.

It is important for the stability of Congolese society to create an environment where these people can work with peace of mind, to enhance their skills, and to help them participate in social and economic activities.

As such, there was an urgent need to strengthen the functions of vocational training facilities. However, the National Vocational Preparedness Institutes and most other vocational training facilities had aging infrastructure or had reached their capacity limits, while equipment had also deteriorated and was lacking. Those circumstances made it impossible to provide sufficient vocational training.

As a result, Japan worked on expanding and improving the main facilities at the National Vocational Preparedness Institute of Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as upgrading its vocational training equipment.

The facility improvements included the construction of a three-story training building, which housed not only classrooms, but also freezer/air conditioning, electrics, and electronics training rooms, computer labs, an information zone, multipurpose rooms, a library, and study rooms, as well as the construction of an administration building and an annex building. The Government of Japan provided equipment specific to the mechanical, automotive, electrics, electronics, welding/plating, architecture, civil engineering, woodworking fields, as well as equipment common to all fields.

Japan's assistance helped to replace the aging and cramped training environment of the National Vocational Preparedness Institute of Kinshasa, and through the provision of the new equipment, vocational trainees now have an opportunity to access the latest technologies.

Social stability through the development of vocational human resources is urgently needed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Japan has greatly contributed to this goal by improving the quality of vocational training.



A computer practice lab is one of the facilities established through this cooperation. (Photo: JICA)



### (3) Promotion of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and Development of Food Value Chains

The population of undernourished people in the world still remains large, and the world's population growth is anticipated to further increase food demand. Under these circumstances, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets Goal 1 as “End poverty in all its forms everywhere” and Goal 2 as “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable

agriculture.” To achieve these goals and realize quality growth in developing countries, efforts to develop agriculture are an urgent challenge. In addition, three out of four poor people in developing countries live in rural areas. Because the majority of these individuals rely on farming for a living, efforts to develop agriculture and rural communities are important.

#### <Japan's Efforts>

Based on the Development Cooperation Charter approved by the Cabinet in February 2015, Japan proactively addresses global food security, giving priority to cooperation that develops agriculture, forestry and fisheries, including the development of food value chains, in order to achieve “quality growth” in developing countries and poverty eradication through such growth. In the short term, Japan provides food assistance to developing countries to avert food shortages. In the medium- to long-term, Japan aims to help increase and improve agricultural production and productivity in developing countries in order to prevent and eliminate the causes of food-related problems including hunger.

Specifically, Japan uses its knowledge and experience to strengthen agricultural research and technology development, along with capacity-building to disseminate this technology in a way that is suited to the cultivation environment, to promote the sustainable use of fishery resources, to strengthen organizations of farmers, to assist policymaking, as well as to improve infrastructures such as irrigation facilities, farm roads, and fishing ports. Through these efforts, Japan extends various supports, from production, processing, distribution, to sales phases.

In Africa, Japan also supports the research of NERICA\* (New Rice for Africa) and the spread of its production techniques, and provides support for increasing rice production based on the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and for the introduction of a market-based agricultural promotion (SHEP: Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project) approach,\* among others. In addition, in order to assist reducing post-harvest loss,\* revitalizing the food industry, and increasing rural incomes, Japan places priority on assistance for developing “food value chains.” This refers to creating a chain of added values around food by enhancing the added value of agricultural, forestry and fishery products at each phase of the process from production to manufacturing, processing, distribution, and consumption, and linking these added values.

In June 2014, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) formulated the Global Food Value Chain Strategy, after conducting reviews in collaboration

with academia, private companies, relevant ministries and agencies, and others. The Strategy lays out a basic strategy and region-specific strategies for developing food value chains in developing countries and elsewhere. In accordance with this Strategy, bilateral dialogues were held through public-private cooperation in countries, such as Viet Nam, Myanmar, and Brazil, to promote the development of food value chains by linking development cooperation and Japanese private sector investment. In August 2015, at the Second High-Level Meeting of the Japan-Viet Nam Agricultural Cooperation Dialogue, the two sides approved a medium- to long-term vision that outlines detailed action plans for developing food value chains in Viet Nam through partnerships between the public and private sectors of Japan and Viet Nam.

With respect to food security, at the outreach session on food security at the G8 L'Aquila Summit (Italy) in July 2009, Japan pledged at least \$3 billion over three years in 2010-2012 for agricultural development including infrastructure, and provided approximately \$4.2 billion (commitment basis) by the end of 2012. Additionally, the rapid increase of agricultural investment in developing countries had become an international issue since some of the investments were reported as “land grabbing” by some media outlets. For this reason, Japan proposed the concept of “Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI)”\* at the L'Aquila Summit, which has since gained support at international fora such as the G7/8, G20, and APEC. Furthermore, based on the RAI concept, the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems were discussed at the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), whose Secretariat is comprised of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the World Food Programme (WFP), and were adopted at the CFS 41st Session in October 2014.

As to the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition,\* which was established at the G8 Camp David Summit (the United States) in May 2012, its progress report was released and new African partner countries were announced at an event held in conjunction with the G8 Lough Erne Summit (the United Kingdom) in June 2013.



Under the framework of the New Alliance, the relevant international organizations are implementing the “Forward-looking research and analysis programme for responsible agricultural investment” with financial support from Japan.

At the G7 Schloss Elmau Summit (Germany) in June 2015, the Broader Food Security and Nutrition Development Approach was unveiled, which aims to lift 500 million people in developing countries out of hunger and malnutrition by 2030.

Furthermore, Japan has promoted efforts to assist the Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)\* in the G20, which aims to enhance agricultural market transparency. Further, Japan provides assistance in the agricultural sector through the FAO, IFAD, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), WFP, and other international organizations.

Japan underlines the importance of agriculture as an industry that plays a pivotal role in ensuring food security, reducing poverty, and stimulating economic growth throughout Africa, and contributes to the development of agriculture in Africa.

At the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) held in June 2013, Japan announced that it would continue its assistance for the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)\* launched at TICAD IV in 2008, and that as an assistance measure to promote market-based agriculture, it would provide assistance for human resources development of 1,000 technical advisers, develop organizations for 50,000 smallholder farmers, and dispatch cooperation experts, as

well as promote the SHEP approach (to be rolled out in 10 countries), among other measures.

At the Japan-African Regional Economic Communities (RECs) Summit Roundtable held in New York in September 2013, Japan discussed the theme of agricultural development. Agriculture was on the agenda at the First TICAD V Ministerial Meeting held in Cameroon in May 2014, reflecting also the African Union’s (AU) identification of 2014 as the Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa. At the meeting, Japan reported that it was steadily implementing the TICAD V support measures, explaining that rice production in Sub-Saharan Africa increased from 14 million tons to 20.7 million tons as of 2012 because of Japan’s CARD initiative, and that the incomes of smallholder farmers doubled in three years from 2006 in Kenya, thanks to the introduction of the SHEP approach, to be commenced in that country. African countries expressed appreciation for these efforts.

In June 2015, a side event regarding agricultural development through the TICAD process was held on the margins of the 39th Session of the FAO Conference in Rome. The event was attended by approximately 200 people from 43 African countries, other countries, and international organizations. Discussions took place on the importance of developing food value chains that take smallholder farmers into consideration, as well as on specific case studies from different countries. It was confirmed that their outcomes would be used as reference for the TICAD process.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (rural community development officer), Mr. Hikaru Nagase harvests broccoli together with local Kenyan farmers. (Photo: Miki Sembokuya / JICA)



Women engage in agricultural work in the Layyah District in Central Pakistan. (Photo: Satsuki Arai / JICA)

**NERICA**

NERICA (New Rice for Africa) is a general term for rice developed in 1994 by the Africa Rice Center (formerly West Africa Rice Development Association [WARDA]) through hybridization of high-yield Asian rice with African rice, which is resistant to weeds, diseases and insect pests. Japan has also contributed to developing a variety of new types that are suited to the natural conditions of each region in Africa. The characteristics of the rice include (i) a higher yield, (ii) a shorter growth period, (iii) higher resistance to dryness (drought), and (iv) higher resistance to diseases and insect pests than conventional rice. Since 1997, Japan has partnered with international organizations and NGOs to provide support for research and development related to new types of NERICA, test cultivation, and increased production and popularization of seeds. In addition, Japan has dispatched agricultural experts and JOCVs, and has accepted trainees from Africa for training in Japan.

**Market-based agricultural promotion (SHEP\*) approach for smallholder farmers**

The SHEP approach refers to an effort to assist smallholder farmers to enhance their agricultural organizations through training and research on local markets, and to provide guidance on cultivation techniques and development of agricultural roads while taking account of gender, in order to help them improve their capacities to manage their agricultural businesses in accordance with the market.

\*SHEP: Smallholder Horticulture Empowerment Project

**Post-harvest loss**

Post-harvest loss refers to harvested food that is discarded, because it is unable to fulfill its originally intended purpose (for use as food, etc.). This can be caused by improper harvest timing, and overexposure to rain or dryness, extremely high or low temperatures, germ contamination, or any other physical damage that reduces the value of the products due primarily to a lack of adequate storage facilities.

**Responsible Agricultural Investment**

Responsible Agricultural Investment refers to an initiative proposed by Japan at the G8 L'Aquila Summit in response to unintentional negative impacts resulting from large-scale agricultural investment (acquisition of farmland with foreign capital) in developing countries in the face of spikes in international food prices. In addition to mitigating the negative impacts of agricultural investment, it aims to promote agricultural development in the host country as well as harmonize and maximize the benefits enjoyed by that country's government, local people, and investors.

**New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition**

The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition refers to an initiative that was launched at the Camp David Summit (the United States) in 2012 with the aim of achieving sustainable and inclusive agricultural growth and lifting 50 million people out of poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa over the next 10 years, with the cooperation of donor countries, African countries, and the private sector. Under the initiative, the Country Cooperation Framework was formulated for the African partner countries, which includes financial commitments from donors, specific policy actions by the governments of partner countries, and private-sector investment intents. Ongoing efforts are being made with the cooperation framework that was formulated for ten countries by May 2014, namely, Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, and Tanzania.

**Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS)**

AMIS was launched as a countermeasure against food price volatility by the G20 in 2011. It allows each of the G20 members, the main exporting and importing countries, companies, and international organizations to share agricultural and food market information (production output, price, etc.) in a timely, precise, and transparent manner. Japan has supported the efforts of ASEAN countries aimed at improving the accuracy of ASEAN agricultural and statistical information used as AMIS data.

**Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD)**

CARD is a consultative group composed of donor countries, African regional organizations, and international organizations partnered with rice-producing countries in Africa that are interested in rice production and development. The CARD Initiative was announced at TICAD IV in 2008. Japan plans to train 50,000 agricultural advisors in relation to doubling rice production.

**Panama****Comparative Studies of the Reproductive Biology and Early Life History of Two Tuna Species for the Sustainable Use of These Resources**

Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) Project (April 2011 – Ongoing)

Tuna fishery takes place all over the Pacific Ocean. It represents a vital industry for Central American countries such as Panama, where the country's more than 30,000 tons a year of frozen and fresh tuna exports have become an important source of foreign currency income.

In recent years, however, overfishing has given rise to concerns over the declining resources of natural tuna species in the wild. In particular, the two species of yellowfin tuna and Pacific bluefin tuna, which are highly migratory and the common resource of the Pacific Ocean, have been of concern for a sharp decline in number due to disorderly fishing. As a result, the introduction of an effective resource management mechanism is urgently needed.

At the request of the Government of Panama, which is concerned by the depletion of its wild tuna resources, the Government of Japan has been supporting joint research with the Achotines Laboratory of Panama's Los Santos Province since 2011. The aim of the research is to elucidate the spawning patterns and early life stages needed to ensure the sustainable management of yellowfin tuna and Pacific bluefin tuna resources in the waters off Panama. This research is being carried out jointly by Kinki University's Fisheries Laboratory which successfully perfected the farming of bluefin tuna, the Aquatic Resources Authority of Panama, and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission.<sup>1</sup>

To date, researchers have been gathering data through gene identification and analysis, in order to analyze maternal lines, and identify schools of fish and individual fish. In addition, research has shed light on the mechanisms and conditions by which farmed tuna spawn, nutritional requirements for aquaculture and early development, and embryonic development and growth.

Furthermore, in terms of technologies for farming yellowfin tuna, new insight has been gained into technologies for the genetic management of spawners, artificial insemination technologies, technologies for raising juvenile fish, and technologies for raising fry. Researchers are also conducting data analysis towards achieving practical application.

Japan's assistance, in the form of joint research with Panama, has helped accumulate and integrate the scientific knowledge needed for the sustainable use of tuna resources in the waters off Panama and the Americas. There are also high hopes that aquaculture techniques will continue to improve and resource management technologies will be established. (As of December 2015)

\*1 The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission is a regional fisheries management body established in 1950 in order to protect and manage bonito and tuna species in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Within the Commission there is an organization that conducts research on the relevant species (bonito, yellowfin tuna, etc.) and implements protective measures such as the issuance of recommendations. With regard to yellowfin tuna, the Commission issues recommendations on regulations for the total catch in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. As of October 2015, there are 21 signatory countries and regions to the treaty concluded for the purpose of strengthening the Commission, including Japan and Panama, as well as four cooperating countries that are not signatories.



Short-term experts collect blood samples from yellowfin tuna. (From left to right: short-term expert Honryo, short-term expert Sawada, and short-term expert Kobayashi.) After collecting the blood samples, the experts extract DNA and obtain various genetic information. (Photo: JICA)

## (4) Sustainable Cities

Cities are the primary settlement areas of humans, and are the focal points of economic, social, and political activities. In recent years, attention has been focused on the issues relating to the administration of cities. The issues include: the disposal of the substantial waste emitted in urban areas and suburbs; the prevention of air, water, and other environmental pollution; the development of infrastructure facilities including sewage and waste treatment systems; and responses to rapid population increases and the consequent fast pace of urbanization. Addressing these

### <Japan's Efforts>

Based on the Development Cooperation Charter adopted by the Cabinet in February 2015, Japan aims to achieve “quality growth” and poverty eradication through such growth in developing countries. To this end, Japan implements cooperation for realizing sustainable cities, along with efforts to resolve global issues directly related to human settlements, including efforts for promoting disaster risk reduction, recovery from natural disasters, and a sound water cycle.

More specifically, drawing on its know-how and experience, Japan develops infrastructure, including water and sewage, waste, and energy facilities. In addition, Japan carries out disaster risk reduction programs based on the concept of “Build Back Better,” striving to build cities that are more resilient to natural disasters than prior to the disaster. Japan also conducts human resources development. Furthermore, Japan implements initiatives through assistance to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), an international organization that mainly conducts

issues and engaging in efforts to realize sustainable cities are priorities for development cooperation.

Among the SDGs in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted at the UN General Assembly in September 2015, Goal 11 sets forth the following task: “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.” There is thus a growing international commitment to resolving the issues of human settlements, including realizing sustainable cities.

activities to resolve human settlement issues. Notably, Japan also implements programs in collaboration with the UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP), in part because it is headquartered in Fukuoka Prefecture, and with Japanese private companies. UN-Habitat ROAP is involved in the organization of a UN conference (Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development) held once every 20 years on resolving human settlement issues, including issues arising from urbanization.

In October 2016, at the Third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) to be held in Quito, Ecuador in South America, the New Urban Agenda will be adopted, which will provide an international action framework for resolving a wide range of human settlement issues based on the achievements made in each country over the 20 years since the previous conference. Japan will take steps to contribute to this conference.

## (5) Introduction of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and High Technology

The dissemination of Information and Communications Technology (ICT)\* contributes to the achievement of sustainable economic growth by upgrading industries and improving productivity. It also contributes to addressing issues related to medical care, education, energy, environment, disaster risk reduction, and other social issues

in developing countries. Utilization of ICT improves their democratic foundation through encouraging information disclosure by governments, and developing broadcasting media. In this way, ICT is extremely important for strengthening civil society through increased convenience and improved services, and for quality growth.

### <Japan's Efforts>

Japan actively offers assistance mainly for the development of communications and broadcasting equipment and facilities in developing countries, the introduction of the technology and systems they require, and relevant human resources development, in order to eliminate the ICT disparities that exist between countries and regions and to help improve the quality of life of all people.

More specifically, Japan makes proactive efforts to

provide comprehensive support for the overseas promotion of Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting-Terrestrial (ISDB-T)\* in the areas of maintenance, personnel and systems, which is also an effective means for contributing to Japan's economic growth. As of August 2015, ISDB-T has been introduced in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, and has been adopted in a total of 17 countries.<sup>6</sup> Japan has dispatched experts to eight countries,

Note 6: The 17 countries are Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Chile, Venezuela, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Paraguay, the Philippines, Bolivia, Uruguay, Maldives, Botswana, Guatemala, Honduras, Sri Lanka and Nicaragua (as of August 2015).



including the Philippines, Ecuador and Costa Rica, and has been transferring technologies since FY2009 as part of the support to countries adopting ISDB-T. A JICA training program is conducted every year for countries adopting ISDB-T and those considering to adopt it to promote the overseas spread and introduction of ISDB-T.

To increase the adoption of ISDB-T in other countries, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) extends assistance that offers ICT solutions resolving social issues by way of dialogues and joint projects with partner governments. Furthermore, MIC contributes in the field of ICT for disaster risk reduction. Japan's ICT for disaster risk reduction makes it possible to collect, analyze and distribute disaster information in an integrated manner, allowing detailed information to be communicated swiftly and infallibly at the community level, including to the public.

MIC will continue to cooperate in the field of ICT for disaster risk reduction, and thereby contribute to increasing the disaster risk reduction capabilities of developing countries. (See page 118 for more information on disaster risk reduction.)

Japan also actively collaborates with international organizations to carry out these efforts. Japan works with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU),\* a specialized agency of the UN responsible for telecommunications, to provide a variety of development assistance in the field of telecommunications to developing countries. In December 2014, Japan collaborated with ITU and the Government of the Philippines to commence a joint project in Cebu Island, the Philippines, where a typhoon caused catastrophic damages in 2013. The project conducts demonstration tests using the Movable and Deployable ICT Resource Unit (MDRU),\* a system capable of quickly restoring information and communications as an emergency measure in the wake of natural disasters. Additionally, from November to December 2015, the Japanese government and ITU held the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS) in Hiroshima. At this annual symposium attended by many ministers, discussions took



A JICA Expert, Mr. Katsumasa Hirose delivers a presentation at the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Peru in Lima on digital terrestrial broadcasting to promote its introduction for speedy communication of disaster information via TV in the event of natural disasters. (Photo: Kosuke Okahara / JICA)

place on the role of ICT in relation to the development goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was adopted at the UN General Assembly in September 2015. The ICT Development Index that holistically evaluates each country's level of ICT access, use, and skills was also presented.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the international organization for the information and communications sector known as the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)\* has served as a coordinator of regional policy. At the APT Ministerial Meeting in Brunei in September 2014, APT adopted a joint statement for member states and APT to cooperate on building a "smart digital economy" in the Asia-Pacific region. Their efforts have contributed to a balanced development of telecommunication services and information infrastructure within the region. To reduce ICT disparities and solve social issues facing developing countries, including disaster risk reduction and medical care, Japan has supported through APT human resources development such as training in the ICT field, and exchange of ICT engineers and researchers.

In June 2014, APT held a workshop in Tokyo on disaster management and communications. Participants shared their know-how and experiences on themes such as the effectiveness and use of emergency communications and warning systems, and exchanged views on future challenges and efforts.

As regards the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the ASEAN Community was established on December 31, 2015, which aims to create a symbiotic society and a single market covering 600 million people. At the ASEAN Summit in November 2015, ASEAN adopted new blueprints that provide new indicators to 2025. This blueprint identifies ICT as a key driver in ASEAN's economic and social transformation. In light of the importance of ICT's role, the ASEAN ICT Masterplan 2020 (AIM2020) that serves as ASEAN's ICT strategy towards 2020 was formulated at the Japan-ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers (TELMIN) Meeting held in the same month. Based on these developments, at the TELMIN Meeting, Japan introduced the ASEAN Smart ICT Connectivity (ASIC) that outlines Japan's cooperation vision for ASEAN. Japan will continue to support the development of ICT in ASEAN and efforts to offer ICT solutions to regional issues. In order to put this vision into practice, Japan supports the development of ICT infrastructure in Myanmar using ODA, and in such ways, extends cooperation in the field of ICT. With regard to the issues of cyber-attacks that have become key concerns of countries in recent years, Japan and ASEAN have agreed to further deepen their cooperation in the information security field, which has included the holding of the eighth ASEAN-Japan Information Security Policy Meeting in October 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

## Glossary

**Information and Communications Technology (ICT)**

ICT is technology that integrates computers and other information technology with digital communication technology, as characterized by the Internet and mobile phones.

**Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting – Terrestrial (ISDB-T)**

ISDB-T is a terrestrial digital broadcasting system that was developed in Japan. Its functions, such as emergency alert broadcast, TV reception on mobile terminals, and data broadcasting, give the system advantages in disaster response and the realization of diverse services.

**International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**

ITU is a UN specialized agency, which is responsible for the fields of telecommunications and broadcasting (HQ: Geneva, Switzerland; 193 member countries). To ensure that people around the world are able to make use of telecommunications technologies, ITU implements: (i) the international allocation of radio frequencies used in mobile phones, satellite broadcasting, and other technologies; (ii) the international standardization of telecommunications technologies; and (iii) support for development in the field of telecommunications in developing countries.

**Movable and Deployable ICT Resource Unit (MDRU)**

MDRU is a telecommunications facility that was researched and developed by MIC based on the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake. The unit is deployed to affected areas in the wake of a natural disaster to quickly restore communications as an emergency measure. The unit can be made smaller, such as the vehicle-based type and the attaché case type. MDRU allows for phone services and data communications to take place when communications equipment have been damaged and cannot be utilized.

**Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)**

APT is an international telecommunications organization established in the Asia-Pacific region in 1979, made up of 38 member countries. Aiming for a balanced development of telecommunication services and information infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region, it develops human resources through training sessions and seminars and coordinates regional policies on standardization, wireless communications, and other telecommunication issues.

**The Philippines****Joint Project with the ITU on Moveable and Deployable ICT Resource Units  
Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Technical Cooperation (December 2014 – Ongoing)**

Typhoon Haiyan, a large-scale typhoon, struck the Philippines and caused extensive damage in Cebu Island in the Philippines in November 2013. The municipality of San Remigio in the northern part of Cebu Island was directly hit by the typhoon, and its wireless networks were completely wiped out. In the immediate aftermath of the typhoon, people were forced to gather information manually. Moreover, a single satellite phone used by the mayor was the only means of communicating with the outside world, including for reporting the damage to the national government. This highlighted the pressing need for mitigation of risks associated with a natural disaster.

Under these circumstances, the Government of Japan and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) responded to the request from the Government of the Philippines, and commenced a joint project to perform a feasibility study using a Movable and Deployable ICT Resource Unit (MDRU) for disaster mitigation in the municipality of San Remigio in December 2014.

An MDRU is a mobile telecommunication facility which can be quickly transported for emergency rehabilitation of the communication system in an affected-area during a disaster. The facility has been developed based on the lessons learned from the Great East Japan Earthquake by the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) and other companies commissioned by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) since 2011. MDRUs come in the form of a vehicle-based unit and a briefcase-type unit, making them easy to transport to an area hit by a natural disaster. Even when existing telecommunication equipment is damaged and unusable, an MDRU can be quickly set up locally to connect telephone calls and establish an Internet connection.

During the feasibility study, an MDRU was placed at city hall to establish a wide-area Wi-Fi network between the emergency response headquarters and evacuation sites (approximately 500 meters). Next, smartphones were used to make calls and share data such as pictures and videos. This proved that the MDRU worked effectively in the Philippines and could be used for future disasters. City employees and local residents then received technical training on how to properly operate and manage the MDRU on a daily basis. They also participated in a training drill using the MDRU based on the scenario that a major natural disaster had occurred. These efforts have greatly contributed to the municipality's disaster mitigation preparations.

In the future, the results of the feasibility study will be shared in Japan and abroad so that the MDRU can be introduced and used in other places as well. Japan will continue to work together with the ITU and other international organizations to improve natural disaster planning not only in the Philippines, but also other countries around the world. (As of August 2015)



San Remigio City Hall where the project is implemented, and vehicle-type and attaché case-type mobile ICT units. (Photos: MIC)

In-vehicle ICT unit



Attaché case-type ICT unit



## (6) Promotion of Science, Technology and Innovation, and Research and Development

Data science (a method of conducting scientific research by analyzing massive amounts of data) and cyber security are gaining importance with the increasingly widespread use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT), along with the advances in the globalization of R&D and openness of research outcomes. In this connection, science, technology, and innovation are undergoing fundamental transformations.

Science and technology is a fundamental element that underlies national security, economic growth through innovation, and improvements in the lives and welfare of mankind.

### <Japan's Efforts>

Against this backdrop, Japan identifies science and technology diplomacy as an important pillar of Japanese diplomacy, supporting developing countries through promotion of science, technology, and innovation and R&D. Japan has promoted science and technology diplomacy by hosting the first G8 Science and Technology Ministers' Meeting, as well as implementing the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)\* that integrates Japan's ODA and science and technology budgets. The "Valorization of Bio-resources in Semi Arid and Arid Land for Regional Development" project is a SATREPS project implemented in Tunisia for the purposes of confirming the usefulness of plant resources growing in arid and semi-arid areas and developing technologies for their applications. As a result of this research, active ingredients such as anti-cancer and anti-allergy ingredients were discovered from plant constituents such as local olives. It is expected that these plant resources can be used to create industries, as well as produce ripple effects in countries in North Africa where the climate conditions are similar.



The team working on the Project for Valorization of Bio-resources in Semi Arid and Arid Land for Regional Development unveiled the functional properties of olives grown in Tunisia. The photo shows an olive plantation in Tunisia. (Photo: JICA)

The international community attaches importance to international cooperation that utilizes science and technology to solve issues, such as sustainable development of the economy and industry, global environmental issues, natural resource and energy issues, and health and sanitation issues. In today's international community, which is witnessing fundamental changes in the science, technology, and innovation processes, there is a call for more strategic and proactive efforts in science and technology diplomacy.



The Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIT) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. (Photo: Natsuki Yasuda (studio AFTERMODE) / JICA)

Another effort of Japan involves strengthening assistance for overseas engineering universities to develop next-generation networks that are based on cooperation for human resources development. In Malaysia, an institution of higher education offering Japanese-style engineering education, the Malaysia-Japan International Institute of Technology (MJIT), was founded as a culmination of the Look East Policy<sup>7</sup> initiated in 1982. Japan provides support to MJIT by purchasing equipment and supplies for education and research, and developing curriculums. Japan also collaborates with 26 universities in Japan to extend cooperation for establishing curriculums, dispatching Japanese faculty, and other objectives.

In addition, Japan provides contributions to the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), an international organization located in Thailand and one of Asia's leading graduate schools offering Master's and PhD programs at the School of Engineering and Technology, the School of Environment, Resources and Development, and other schools. Japan's contributions are used to provide scholarships to students studying remote sensing (satellite image analysis) taught by Japanese instructors, and contributes to human resources

Note 7: The Look East Policy is Malaysia's human resources development policy advocated in 1981 by then Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad of Malaysia, with the objective of studying Japan's development experience, work ethic, management philosophy, among other dimensions.



development in the field of remote sensing that utilizes artificial satellites constituting the crux of the ASEAN-Japan Disaster Management Cooperation.

In Egypt, since 2008 Japan has supported the establishment of Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology (E-JUST), a national university based on the concept of “graduate school, research-centered, pragmatic, and international-standard education for a small number of students,” drawing on the features of Japanese-style engineering education. Universities from all over Japan have collaborated to dispatch faculty and staff to Egypt to provide lecture and research guidance, and support the development of curriculums. Through an “All-Japan” effort, Japan aims to share its science and technology education practices with Africa and the Middle East.

Japan also conducts a program to increase the adoption of Japanese companies’ technologies that are useful for the socio-economic development of developing countries. This program is expected to help promote the adoption of Japanese private companies’ advanced technological capabilities and diverse know-how in partner countries.



The Egypt-Japan University for Science and Technology (E-JUST) on the outskirts of Alexandria, Egypt. Graduate school researchers confirm the movements of a robot they have created. (Photo: Shinichi Kuno / JICA)

## Glossary

### Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS)

SATREPS makes use of both Japan’s outstanding science and technologies and ODA to conduct research to solve global issues relating to the environment and energy, bio-resources, disaster risk reduction, and infectious diseases. Research institutes in developing countries and in Japan work together to implement international joint research with the goal of utilizing the research outcomes (diffusing research outcomes in society). The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED), in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), provide support to research institutes and researchers in Japan and partner countries.

## Tonga

### Collaboration Program with the Private Sector for Disseminating Japanese Technology for the Natural Disaster-Proof Okinawan Tilttable Wind Turbine System Technical Cooperation Project (Collaboration Program with the Private Sector for Disseminating Japanese Technology) (August 2014 to December 2015)

Tonga is an island country located in the Pacific Ocean comprised of around 160 islands, about 40 of which are inhabited. Taking advantage of its unique geographical traits, the country is actively introducing wind turbines as a means of generating renewable energy.

However, Tonga is often struck by typhoons. Therefore, the country needs some kind of technology that can prevent the blades of the wind turbines from being damaged by powerful winds. In response to these needs, Progressive Energy Corporation, a company based in Okinawa Prefecture, which is also susceptible to typhoons, proposed the use of its tilttable wind turbine technology. This technology allows wind turbines that can be taken down when a storm approaches and then re-erected once the storm has passed.

Japan is assisting Tonga with this technology through the Collaboration Program with the Private Sector for Disseminating Japanese Technology. The tilttable wind turbines represent a sophisticated Japanese technology and they offer excellent features found nowhere else. These turbines can not only withstand powerful typhoon winds, but they can also be easily repaired on the ground when they break down, so there is no need to perform dangerous work in high places using a crane. As part of this program, Tonga’s Minister for Public Enterprises visited Okinawa and observed the installation of wind turbines with this technology, and engineers from Okinawa carried out fieldwork in Tonga for investigating whether technology matches the local demands.

Currently, reviews are underway together with the Government of Tonga on the introduction of this technology.

This project also achieves regional revitalization in Japan through exporting the local Okinawan technologies overseas. In the future, the goal is to expand this technology to other Pacific island countries with a connection to Okinawa Prefecture, through the Pacific Islands Forum.



A ministerial delegation from Tonga inspected the superb properties of the Minami Daito Jima Island Tilttable Wind Turbine Power Station. (Photo: Progressive Energy Corporation)

## 1-2 Assistance Necessary to Promote People-centered Development that Supports Basic Human Life

Japan has proactively advocated the concept of “human security” to the international community, a notion that seeks to protect people from widespread and serious threats to the survival, livelihood, and dignity of humans and help them fulfill their abundant potential. There can be no

quality growth without “human security.” The following takes a people-centered approach to introducing the dimensions that support basic human life, including health, water, education, and culture.

### (1) Health and Population

Many of the people living in developing countries do not have access to the basic health services that are available day-to-day in developed countries. The continued lack of a hygienic environment has led to the annual loss of more than 6.6 million children under the age of five due to infectious diseases, malnutrition, diarrhea, and other ailments.<sup>8</sup> Over 280,000 pregnant women also lose their lives every year, unable to receive emergency obstetric care from skilled birth attendants, including obstetrician, gynecologist, and midwife.<sup>9</sup> Furthermore, due to high rates of population growth, poor countries suffer from further poverty, unemployment, famine, lack of access to and poor quality of education, and environmental deterioration.

To solve these problems, the international community has worked collectively to achieve the following health-related MDGs (MDG 4: reducing child mortality, MDG 5: improving maternal health, and MDG 6: combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases) since the year 2000. However, with slow progress, especially in low-income

countries, these MDGs expired without being achieved by their deadline (2015). Even in the countries where the indicators improved, low-income families remain unable to access medical services since they cannot afford to pay the healthcare costs. Thus, disparities in health outcomes within a country have emerged as a new challenge.

“Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages” was set under Goal 3 of the SDGs that were agreed as the post-MDGs consisting of 17 goals and 169 targets. In addition, in recent years there is a need for addressing new health issues, for example, malnutrition including over-nutrition, non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and cancer, and aging population.

In order to respond to the increasingly diversified health issues in each country and region in the world, it is important to achieve “universal health coverage (UHC)” to ensure that all people obtain the health services they need without suffering financial hardship when paying for them.

### <Japan's Efforts>

#### ● Health

Japan values global health which ensures human security, and Japan has led international discussions on health system\* strengthening, giving priority to health initiatives. At the G8 Kyushu-Okinawa Summit in 2000, infectious diseases were taken up for the first time as a major agenda of the Summit. This led to the establishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund) in 2002.

At the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit in July 2008, the Toyako Framework for Action on Global Health was released by the G8 nations, advocating the importance of health system strengthening. Moreover, at the G8 Muskoka Summit (Canada) in June 2010, the Muskoka Initiative which aims to strengthen support for maternal and child health was launched and Japan announced that it would additionally provide up to ¥50 billion, or approximately \$500 million, over the five years from 2011.

Japan presented the Global Health Policy 2011-2015 at the UN Summit on the MDGs in September 2010,

and Japan committed \$5 billion (including contribution of up to \$800 million to the Global Fund in the coming years from 2011), to contribute to the achievement of the health-related MDGs. The three pillars of the Global Health Policy 2011-2015 are: (i) maternal and child health; (ii) measures against the three major infectious diseases\* (HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria); and (iii) public health emergencies including polio and pandemic influenza. In addition, in May 2013, Japan formulated the Strategy on Global Health Diplomacy. This strategy positioned providing solutions to global health as a priority of Japan's diplomacy, and it set forth policies to improve global health through joint efforts by the public and private sectors. At TICAD V in June 2013, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced this strategy in the opening speech in which he stated that improving the health of all people is indispensable to realize human security, and expressed Japan's determination to contribute to the promotion of UHC through which all people of the world can receive

Note 8: Source: UN, “The Millennium Development Goals Report 2014”

Note 9: Source: WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, and the World Bank, “Trends in Maternal Mortality: 1990 to 2010”

basic health care services. It was also announced that Japan will provide ¥50 billion and provide support to train 120,000 people in the field of health in the next five years (see page 109 for more information on “Promotion of Universal Health Coverage, and Infectious Diseases Control”).

In September 2015, the Government of Japan approved the Basic Design for Peace and Health, which is the global health policy under the Development Cooperation Charter established in February. This policy aims to draw on Japan’s expertise, technologies, medical equipment, and services to: (i) build a system to respond to public health emergencies such as the Ebola virus disease; and (ii) establish basic health services to all people throughout their course of life. These efforts will be important also for the pursuit of the health goals identified in the UN’s new goals, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In September 2015, the Government of Japan established the Basic Guideline for Strengthening Measures on Emerging Infectious Diseases. The guideline presents the direction and priority actions for the next five years, in order to strengthen the measures against infectious diseases that could become global threats.

On the occasion of the 70th UN General Assembly session in September 2015, Prime Minister Abe addressed the side event, The Path towards Universal Health Coverage, which the Japanese government co-organized with the Global Fund and other partners. The Prime Minister stated that based on the Basic Guidelines, it was important that the international community strengthens its capacity to respond to public health emergencies such as the Ebola virus outbreak, and that each country achieve

UHC so that they can respond to diverse health problems. Prime Minister Abe addressed at the opening session of Universal Health Coverage in the New Development Era: Toward Building Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems,<sup>10</sup> an international conference co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and other organizations in December 2015. In his address, the Prime Minister stated that through the G7 Ise-Shima Summit and TICAD VI, Japan would take the lead in strengthening responses to public health emergencies, promoting UHC, and strengthening health systems.

For more than 50 years, Japan has been providing a national health insurance system and has become a society in which people enjoy the longest healthy life in the world. Under the new guidelines, Japan will continue to pursue the effective implementation of bilateral assistance, strategic collaborations with global initiatives of international organizations, the enhancement of domestic capabilities and the fostering of human resources.

As for other efforts, in October 2014, the MHLW held the 12th ASEAN and Japan High Level Officials Meeting on Caring Societies, inviting social welfare and health and sanitation policy officials and others from ten ASEAN member states. Under the theme, “Resilient Communities for Active Aging,” the meeting focused on the relationship between aging and communities. Discussion took place on enhancing health and welfare systems in communities, and building cities that are elderly friendly. Discussion also took place on strengthening ASEAN’s measures for coping with aging populations and international cooperation.



Prime Minister Shinzo Abe speaks at the “The Path towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC)” held as a side event of the 70th UN General Assembly on September 29, 2015. (Photo: Cabinet Public Relations Office)

Note 10: Universal Health Coverage in the New Development Era: Toward Building Resilient and Sustainable Health Systems, held in Tokyo on December 16, 2015, was co-organized by MOFA, the Japan Center for International Exchange, the Ministry of Finance (MOF), the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW), and JICA. Approximately 300 people, including government officials from various countries, representatives of international organizations, and private-sector experts, attended and held discussions.



### Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

UHC ensures all people have access to the basic health services they need without suffering from financial hardship (see page 109 for more information).

### Health system

Health system includes establishing mechanisms for governance, the improvement of healthcare facilities, the optimization of the supply of pharmaceuticals, the accurate measurement and effective utilization of healthcare information, financial allocation and administration, resource mobilization as well as the development and management of personnel to operate these processes and provide services.

### The three major infectious diseases

The three major infectious diseases refer to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. Worldwide deaths from these diseases total approximately 3.6 million. The spread of these infectious diseases significantly impacts society and the economy, and is a factor that hampers national development. Accordingly, it is a serious threat to human security, and a global issue that must be addressed by the unified efforts of the international community (see page 111 for more information on infectious diseases).

## Guatemala

### Project for Maternal and Child Health in Quetzaltenango, Totonicapan, and Solola in the Republic of Guatemala Technical Cooperation (March 2011 – March 2015)

Guatemala has lagged behind other Central American countries in terms of improving its health indicators. The country's maternal and infant mortality rate is also higher than surrounding countries, and this trend is particularly evident in Western Guatemala which has a large population of indigenous peoples. The maternal mortality rate was 120 deaths per 100,000 births and the mortality rate among infants (between birth and exactly five years of age) was between 15 and 32 deaths per 1,000 births in 2010.

The reason behind this is that most births are delivered by traditional midwives who do not undergo official medical training, and the only place that people can receive medical care outside of urban areas is community health centers run by the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance, which often lack quality services.

Based on the request of the Government of Guatemala, the Government of Japan has been carrying out the Children's Health Project in the Department of Quetzaltenango covering six municipalities in Quetzaltenango Department since 2005, helping to improve the quality of maternal and child health services locally.

The Project for Maternal and Child Health in Quetzaltenango, Totonicapan, and Solola was initiated in 2011, covering the departments of Totonicapan and Solola, in addition to Quetzaltenango. This project has helped build the capacity of medical personnel involved in maternal and infant care at medical facilities, improved the administrative functions of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance and its regional offices, and spread knowledge for improving the health of mothers and children among the local population.

After providing medical personnel with training on six areas including medical exams for expectant mothers, nutrition management, and low birthweight babies, thorough follow-up efforts were also made. For example, video-based teaching materials (obstetric care, maternal nutrition, newborn care, and infant nutrition) were distributed to health centers for use in their waiting rooms, thereby building capacity further and ensuring the provision of higher quality services. Classes were held where games were used to teach mothers about indications of danger to infants or expectant mothers and how to address these issues. This successfully conveyed knowledge to the local community in a format that was well accepted by the conservative culture.

These efforts spread knowledge about pregnancy and childbirth among women, shed light on family planning and what to watch out for during pregnancy, and raised interest in infant nutrition. At the same time, the provision of necessary medical equipment and attempts to improve maternal and child data gathering and analysis capabilities at medical facilities were successful, leading to greater social collaboration between mothers, medical officials and midwives. As a result, the maternal mortality rate in each department was reduced by between 24% and 34% from 2010 to 2013.

This collaboration and initiative involving Japanese experts, Guatemalan medical personnel and mothers is effectively saving the lives of mothers and children.



Training on use of equipment. (Hospital Nacional de Coatepeque, Quetzaltenango Department). (Photo: JICA)

## Malawi

# Child Friendly Community Health Project JICA Partnership Program (Partner Type) (May 2013 – Ongoing)

Children in Mzimba District and its surrounding areas in Northern Malawi suffer from various forms of malnutrition. Studies have shown that this is caused by a lack of adequate food consumption resulting from local eating habits and poor nutritional balance.

Although various types of food are available at markets in this region, mothers lack sufficient knowledge about proper complementary foods and how to ensure their children receive the necessary nutritional balance. The resulting malnutrition is also one of the causes of parasitic diseases and diarrhea.

In light of this, International Support and Partnership for Health (ISAPH), an NPO affiliated with St. Mary's Hospital in Kurume City, Fukuoka Prefecture, participated in a JICA Partnership Program (JPP)<sup>1</sup> to build capacity among health workers at the Mzimba District Health Office. This initiative also involved educating local residents about three areas of health and medicine: improving infant nutrition, preventing diseases detrimental to nutrition intake, and primary medical care to address these diseases.

ISAPH has engaged in activities to improve the health of villagers in this region, and now it has decided to more actively improve the nutrition of infants through education for local residents. ISAPH officials visited the villages of Mzimba District and they found that the frequency of breast-feeding was low, and that infants under six months of age with undeveloped gastrointestinal organs were not provided appropriate complementary foods with a good nutritional balance.

Based on this, they set up groups of mothers in the region to teach others how to make nutritionally-balanced complementary foods and share this information with others. Also, they worked to educate villagers about the importance of preventing childhood diseases and receiving treatment in the event a child were to fall ill.

Integrated problem-solving approaches have now begun in Malawi with the assistance of this Japanese NGO to improve children's health and raise greater awareness about nutrition and disease not only among families, but among villagers and local governments as well. (As of August 2015)

\*1 For more information, see Glossary on page 180.



Mr. Yamazaki of ISAPH prepares infant incubators for shipment. (Photo: ISAPH)



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (nutritionist), Ms. Mio Maedera is dispatched to the Ministry of Health, Regional office of Veraguas in central Panama, where she regularly visits medical centers in the mountain areas of the province to examine the nutritional status of local people, particularly children, and to provide necessary guidance in order to improve nutrition. (Photo: Maximo Novas)

## (2) Safe Water and Sanitation

Water and sanitation are vital issues linked to human life. In 2015, approximately 663 million people worldwide had no access to safe drinking water, such as piped water and wells, and approximately 2.4 billion people—about a half of the population of developing countries—had no access to basic sanitation facilities, such as toilets and

### <Japan's Efforts>

Japan's disbursements for the fields of water and sanitation are the largest in the world. Japan provides comprehensive support that offers both knowledge and expertise as well as equipment and facilities by drawing on Japan's extensive experience, knowledge, and technology in these fields, including: (i) promotion of integrated water resources management; (ii) provision of safe drinking water and basic sanitation (improvement of sanitation facilities); (iii) support to enable water use for increasing food production and other purposes (e.g., water for agricultural use); (iv) water pollution prevention (establishing effluent regulations) and ecosystem conservation (conservation of vegetation and sustainable forest management, etc.); and (v) mitigation of damage from water-related disasters (establishment of an early warning system and strengthening the disaster response capacities of communities).

In addition, Japan has supported global efforts, including Sustainable Sanitation: Five-Year Drive to 2015, as the

sewage systems.<sup>11</sup> Diarrhea due to lack of safe water and basic sanitation facilities accounts for 11% of the causes of under-five deaths.<sup>12</sup>

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” is set under Goal 6.

target date for the MDGs. More specifically, at TICAD V held in June 2013, Japan announced that it would continue its assistance for securing access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation facilities for approximately 10 million people and provide assistance for training 1,750 urban waterworks engineers over the coming five years.

Problems such as serious water pollution and the destruction of water-based ecosystems are found in many Asian countries, and lack of information and knowledge regarding these issues is a factor undermining sustainable development in Asia. Against this backdrop, the Ministry of the Environment launched the Water Environment Partnership in Asia (WEPA). Through the cooperation of 13 Asian member countries,<sup>13</sup> this initiative aims to strengthen governance in water environment in Asia by establishing human networks, collecting and sharing information, enhancing the capacity of stakeholders, and other activities.



Pupils and teachers rejoice at the completion of a rainwater reservoir in the Mbita District on the shore of Lake Victoria in Kenya. (Photo: Haruki Kazama)



Moroccan experts visit a water treatment plant in Sudan. Morocco was selected because of its similarities with Sudan—also an Arabic country located in Northern Africa—and various programs were implemented, including trainings and invitation of experts. (Photo: Jun Onodera / JICA)

Note 11: Source: WHO/UNICEF, “Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water: 2015 Update and MDG Assessment”

Note 12: UNICEF, “Committing to Child Survival: A Promise Renewed” (Progress Report 2014)

Note 13: Japan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam.



South Sudan's capital city of Juba faces the urgent task of improving its urban infrastructure, which was abandoned and left to deteriorate during the civil war, so as to address the sharp increase in its population resulting from the return of internally displaced persons. In particular, the city's water supply system, which was constructed in the 1930s, received little maintenance during the civil war for South Sudan's independence.

In addition, the city's water treatment capacity has not kept pace with the increasing population. Water supply pipes are old and frequently spring leaks. Most residents depend on water wagons, but these wagons transport and sell water directly from shallow wells or rivers. As such, this water is of poor quality and carries waterborne illnesses.

At the Donors' Conference on Sudan held in 2005, the Government of Japan announced a plan to provide assistance in the areas of water and sanitation, which are essential to human security. Since then, Japan has conducted fieldwork on South Sudan's water supply system and since 2012 it has been working on expanding water treatment facilities, and building new water supply facilities and a distribution network in Juba.

Specifically, these activities include the construction of a new water treatment facility equipped with a receiving well, rapid filtration pond, sedimentation pond, clean water pond and sterilizing equipment. Japan has also laid 4.8 kilometers of water supply pipes, as well as 20.3 kilometers of main lines and 32.5 kilometers of secondary lines. Furthermore, to supply more sanitary water, 120 public water taps and 8 water wagon-based supply hubs have been established throughout Juba.

These improvements to the water supply system will result in safer and more secure water supplies, which will help reduce the morbidity rate of waterborne illnesses and alleviate the heavy workload borne by children and women from having to collect water.

At the Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD V) in 2013, Japan announced its commitment to provide access to safe water and improved sanitation for 10 million people in Africa. The Project for the Improvement of Water Supply System of Juba is part of these efforts. (As of August 2015)



A water tank truck takes water at the bank of the Nile.  
(Photo: JICA)

### (3) Quality Education for All

Education plays an important role in the socio-economic development that is needed for poverty reduction. It also enables individuals to develop their potential and capability, as well as to live with dignity. Education fosters understanding of other people and different cultures, and forms the foundation for peace. However, approximately 57 million children worldwide are still out of school, despite the fact that achieving universal primary education was one of the MDGs with the target date of 2015. Furthermore, new problems have been indicated. For example, in countries and regions affected by conflict, the proportion of out-of-school children that was 30% in 1999 increased to 36% in 2012<sup>14</sup>.

To improve this situation, the Incheon Declaration that compiles recommendations for education beyond 2015 was

unveiled at the World Education Forum 2015\* held in the Republic of Korea (Incheon) in May 2015. The Declaration urges the international community to make efforts to expand access to education.

In the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted at the UN to succeed the MDGs, Goal 4 of the SDGs is identified as “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all,” in order to address the education goal from the MDGs, which remains unachieved.

The international community has been committed to realizing Education for All (EFA).<sup>\*</sup> Following EFA, in order to achieve the more comprehensive Goal 4, the Education 2030 Framework for Action<sup>\*</sup> was adopted at the Education 2030 High-Level Meeting held in November 2015.

Note 14: “The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015” (UN)

## <Japan's Efforts>

Emphasizing “nation-building” and “human resources development,” Japan has been providing developing countries with a broad range of support for education, including the enhancement of basic education,\* higher education, and vocational training.

At the timing of the UN Summit for the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015, Japan announced a new education cooperation strategy entitled, Learning Strategy for Peace and Growth. The new strategy was formulated to serve as a thematic policy in the field of education under the Development Cooperation Charter approved by the Cabinet in February 2015. In formulating the strategy, a wide range of views was exchanged with experts, NGOs, international organizations, and other parties. The new strategy aims to achieve quality education through mutual learning under the following basic principles: (i) Education cooperation to achieve inclusive and equitable quality learning; (ii) Education cooperation for industrial, science and technology human resources development and building the foundation of socio-economic development; and (iii) Establishment and expansion of global and regional networks for education cooperation. In the years ahead, Japan will further contribute to education assistance in accordance with the new strategy.

In March 2015, Japan and the United States unveiled the United States and Japan – Collaborating to Advance Girls Education Around the World, which vows to promote assistance for the education of girls. Additionally, Japan contributes proactively to the discussions for formulating the framework for action that will succeed the EFA Framework for Action adopted in November 2015.

Also, with regard to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE),\* which lays out the international framework for achieving universal primary education, Japan has actively participated in the discussions for formulating a new GPE strategic plan beyond 2016 and in



Children receive pilot lessons using new textbooks created under the project at the Yankin Education College Practicing School in Yangon, Myanmar. In the arts and crafts class, the children show each other their drawings. (Photo: Chiko Yamaoka / JICA)

the reform efforts. Furthermore, Japan's contributions to GPE funds from FY2007 to FY2014 totaled approximately \$20.6 million.

Regarding initiatives for Africa, at TICAD V held in June 2013, Japan announced that it would provide quality educational environments for 20 million children over the course of five years starting in 2013, through the expansion of support for math and science education improvement and school management improvement projects. Japan is steadily implementing these initiatives.

Furthermore, in order to contribute to the development of education and the improvement of its quality in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan contributes to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in the form of Funds-in-Trust to implement projects for improving the management capacity of community learning centers for literacy education, among other purposes.

In Afghanistan, an estimated 11 million people (about 40% of the population) are illiterate due to the impact of nearly three decades of civil war. Therefore, the Government of Afghanistan advances literacy education for the people. Japan has contributed to the promotion of literacy education in Afghanistan by extending a total of approximately ¥5.3 billion in grant aid through UNESCO since 2008, which provided literacy education to 1 million people in 100 districts of 18 provinces in Afghanistan.

In recent years, Japan has been promoting transnational networking of higher education institutions and joint research projects among neighboring countries. Japan also supports human resources development in developing countries by accepting international students to Japanese institutions of higher education and other institutions in accordance with the 300,000 International Students Plan and through other such measures.

In addition, Japan strives to make it easier for Japanese in-service teachers to go overseas as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) under the Special Program



Pupils at the Mmupashalala Primary School in the Mahalapye district in the eastern part of Botswana study in a school building electrified through Japan's Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects. (Photo: Yukari Johnston / Embassy of Japan in Botswana)

for School Teachers.\* In-service teachers dispatched to developing countries contribute to educational promotion and development in their countries of destination, and

make use of their experiences as JOCVs in the Japanese educational context upon their return to Japan.

## Glossary

### World Education Forum 2015

World Education Forum 2015 is an international education conference held in Incheon, the Republic of Korea in May 2015. Attended by the UN Secretary-General, education ministers, and high-level officials, the conference discussed education beyond 2015 and adopted the Incheon Declaration on the final day. During the conference, the Japanese government delegation called upon members to promote Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), among other actions.

### Education for All (EFA)

EFA is an international movement aimed at ensuring everyone in the world has the opportunity to receive at least basic education. The five main organizations involved in EFA are UNESCO, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), with UNESCO serving as the overall coordinator.

### Education 2030 Framework for Action

This framework for action succeeds the EFA Dakar Framework for Action aimed at achieving education for all, adopted at the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal in 2000 with a target date of 2015. The Education 2030 Framework for Action was adopted at the Education 2030 High-Level Meeting, which was held to coincide with the UNESCO General Conference in November 2015.

### Basic education

Basic education is educational activities designed to enable individuals to acquire the knowledge, values, and skills needed to live. It mainly refers to primary education, lower secondary education (equivalent to Japanese junior high school), pre-school education, and adult literacy education.

### Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

GPE refers to a framework for international cooperation established under the leadership of the World Bank in 2002, in order to achieve universal primary education by 2015 that is included in the MDGs and the EFA Dakar goals (formerly known as Fast Track Initiative [FTI]).

### JOVC under the Special Program for School Teachers

The program is designed to facilitate in-service teachers' participation in international cooperation. Teachers who are recommended by MEXT to JICA are exempt from the preliminary technical test. The period between the pre-dispatch training and the termination of dispatch is two years (compared to the usual two years and three months), beginning in April and ending in March to match the Japanese school year.

## Ethiopia

### Project for Capacity and System Development of National Educational Assessment and Examinations in Science and Mathematics Technical Cooperation (September 2014 – Ongoing)

Ethiopia is working to foster human resources in science and mathematics who can help develop the country's technologies and achieve greater industrialization. To this end, the Government of Ethiopia formulated and has been currently implementing the Education Sector Development Programme. However, the rate of students who complete their primary education has remained low, standing at 55% as of 2009. As such, Ethiopia faces the urgent challenge of raising the primary education completion rate in order to increase the number of students who major in science and mathematics at the university level.

An important means of addressing this challenge is to improve the quality of education by developing teachers' abilities. The Government of Japan has provided assistance to help develop a training system for practicing science and mathematics teachers at the seventh and eighth grade levels in primary education in Ethiopia. This has achieved a certain degree of success in improving the quality of instruction.

However, the questions asked in national exams still placed excessive emphasis on knowledge, making it impossible to overcome the conventional focus on rote memorization. There were also many teachers who could not fully comprehend the skills and abilities that students needed to acquire. This was not only because of shortcomings in teachers' abilities, but also because of a lack of consistency in the education system, resulting from differing views among education officials about an appropriate curriculum or testing methods used to evaluate academic ability. In light of this, Japan began providing assistance in 2014 to improve the quality of Ethiopia's education strategy, encouraging a more integrated approach, from formulating the curriculum to conducting lessons and evaluating academic ability.

As part of this assistance project, Japanese experts are charged with aiding the capacity building of education officials through the development of teaching materials and exam questions covering science and mathematics for seventh and eighth graders in primary education. Specifically, science and mathematics teachers and those in charge of formulating exam questions are asked to attend a workshop led by Japanese experts. At the workshop, participants are separated into working groups for individual subjects such as mathematics, biology and physics. Each group works to create teaching materials and improve test questions so that even tests designed to gauge learning progress yield benefits for the students. The teachers who took part in this workshops are enthusiastically reviewing exam questions and participating in discussions about teaching instruction.

It is hoped that by improving their capabilities through participation in this Japanese-led initiative, Ethiopia's science and mathematics teachers can play an important role in contributing to raising primary education completion rates and the percentage of students moving on to secondary education. (As of August 2015)



Participants listening intently at a workshop. (Photo: Jun Tsukui)



#### (4) Disparity Reduction (Assistance for People Who Tend to Be in Vulnerable Situations)

Ongoing efforts are being made to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Meanwhile, a number of issues in which it is difficult to identify where the problem is and address it properly at the broader national level is brought to light. “Increase of disparities” is one of them. Moreover, challenges such as poverty,

conflict, infectious diseases, terrorism, and natural disasters have varying impacts depending on the situations that individuals are in, including women and children. To deal with this situation, it is effective and essential to adopt not only the existing nation-centered framework, but also a people-centered approach.

##### <Japan's Efforts>

##### ● Human Security

Japan places priority on the principle of “human security.” This concept, which focuses on each individual, seeks to build states and communities by protecting and empowering individuals so that they can live in dignity, free from fear and want.

To advance human security, the Japanese government undertakes a variety of efforts, both to (i) promote the concept and to (ii) put it into practice.

- (i) For promoting the concept, Japan has played a leading role in establishing the Commission on Human Security, which is an international commission of experts, as well as convening the informal, open-ended forum Friends of Human Security to increase the number of countries on board with the concept. Based in part on the achievements of these efforts, the UN

General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution concerning a common understanding on human security in September 2012 under Japan's leadership.

- (ii) For putting the concept into practice, Japan spearheaded the launch of the UN Trust Fund for Human Security in 1999. Japan has thus far contributed approximately ¥43.6 billion in total, and supported 237 projects in 88 countries and regions contributing to the promotion of human security, implemented by relevant UN agencies (all figures as of the end of December 2015). In the new Development Cooperation Charter approved by the Cabinet in February 2015, human security is defined as the guiding principle that lies at the foundation of Japan's development cooperation.

##### Concept of “human security”



## ● Assistance for Persons with Disabilities

It is important that capacity building and community development are promoted to ensure the social participation and inclusion of people in vulnerable situations in society, such as young people and women, especially persons with disabilities.

It is Japan's policy to pay due attention to the socially vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, when planning and implementing ODA policies for development cooperation. Policies for persons with disabilities cover a number of different fields, including welfare, health and medical care, education, and employment. Japan has utilized the techniques and experiences Japan has accumulated in these fields through ODA and NGO activities to promote measures for persons with disabilities in developing countries. For example, Japan carefully tailors its assistance to various local needs, such as promoting barrier-free railroad infrastructure and airports, building vocational training and rehabilitation facilities for persons with disabilities, and providing minibuses for their transportation.

Additionally, through JICA, Japan provides a range of technical cooperation to enhance the capacity of organizations and personnel offering assistance to persons with disabilities in developing countries. Included among these efforts are the acceptance of trainees from developing countries and the dispatch of JOCVs and a variety of experts, including physical and occupational therapists and



Boys with intellectual disabilities learn sewing at a vocational training school (St. Joseph the worker facility for children with intellectual disabilities and epilepsy) in the town of Kakamega in western Kenya. (Photo: Caroline Vigot / Embassy of Japan in Kenya)

social workers.

In January 2014, Japan ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Convention establishes independent clauses setting out that states parties will undertake measures for international cooperation and its promotion (Article 32). Japan will continue to contribute to increasing the rights of persons with disabilities in developing countries through ODA and other means.

### South Africa

#### Disability Mainstreaming Advisor Technical Cooperation (December 2012 – Ongoing)

The Republic of South Africa is seeing inequality rise in terms of access to basic social services because of growing economic disparity. In particular, persons with disabilities have limited opportunities for education and employment. These people are considered the poorest of the poor and are excluded from the benefits of social development.

The Government of South Africa is promoting disability mainstreaming, which means ensuring equality for all people regardless of whether they have disabilities or not. To do so, South Africa is expanding services for persons with disabilities in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which was ratified in 2007. However, the country faces a number of challenges, including a lack of information and capacity to implement policies in the field.

As a result, South Africa's Department of Social Development (DSD) requested the assistance of the Government of Japan. Japan dispatched experts with knowledge and skills related to creating welfare programs for persons with disabilities. These experts then assisted the South African government in solving the issues it faced.

Currently, experts dispatched from Japan are working with the office within the DSD that is in charge of affairs related to persons with disabilities. They are holding joint capacity-building training sessions across the country for disability mainstreaming. In addition, they are also observing, monitoring and assessing activities aimed at disability mainstreaming in regions throughout South Africa.

Furthermore, these experts are also assisting DSD employees in building collaborative relationships with persons with disabilities and related organizations, as well as in establishing a network for sharing information with Swaziland and Lesotho, which are fellow members of the South African Development Community (SADC). Training sessions for DSD employees and persons with disabilities were held in all nine states, including the rural parts of South Africa. These sessions included discussions about how to create a barrier-free society, reasonable considerations for persons with disabilities, raising awareness about disabilities, and the formulation of mainstreaming action plans. Efforts are also being made to organize groups for persons with disabilities.

In addition, surveys on improving slopes and restrooms at public facilities for persons with disabilities through their onsite observations are being implemented, and specific plans for improvement are being discussed.

In this manner, Japan's assistance is being used to promote disability mainstreaming and to improve the social standing of persons with disabilities in South Africa. (As of August 2015)



Design workshop (participation-type lecture) for mock restroom facilities designed for improved accessibility (Photo: JICA)

## (5) Promotion of Women's Empowerment and Participation

Generally, conventional wisdom and social systems in developing countries are oftentimes shaped based on men's perceptions, making women prone to vulnerable situations in various dimensions. Compared to the early 2000s when the MDGs were established, girls' enrolment rate has improved considerably, women's political participation has increased, and more women hold senior government official and ministerial posts.<sup>15</sup> However, there are still many countries and regions where women continue to lack the same opportunities as men to participate in decision-making processes, which are not restricted to high-level government decision-making but also include family and other private decision-making that affects the lives of women.

Women are critical actors of development, and their participation will lead to not only the improvement of

their own lives but also to more effective development. For example, improving the ability to read and write of women who had little or no educational opportunities increases their access to correct knowledge of public health and infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, as well as prevention. This leads to proper family planning, and to the promotion of women's social advancement and economic empowerment.

Goal 5 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls." Gender equality (improving unequal relations between men and women), advancing women's status, and gender mainstreaming\* are essential for realizing "quality growth." For this purpose, it is important for men and women to participate equally in development and to equally reap the benefits.

### <Japan's Efforts>

In its development cooperation, Japan has made a clear commitment to advancing the status of women in developing countries.

Recognizing women as important actors of development, Japan formulated the Initiative on Women In Development (WID) in 1995 to give consideration to enabling women to participate in every stage of development (development policy, project planning, implementation, and evaluation). In 2005, the Initiative on WID was fundamentally reviewed to establish the Initiative on Gender and Development (GAD), an approach that seeks to realize sustainable and equitable societies. The Initiative on GAD outlined that a gender perspective would be reflected in all fields, including unequal relations between men and women, the disadvantaged socio-economic situations of women, and improving the fixed gender roles and division of labor between men and women, along with the existing focal areas of women's education, health, and participation in socio-economic activities.

Japan also listed "promoting women's participation" as one of the implementation principles of the Development Cooperation Charter approved in February 2015, stating that Japan will encourage the participation of women at every phase of development cooperation and be more proactive in ensuring that women share equitably in the fruits of development.

Japan has been offering assistance through the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) founded in 2011 by merging four parts of the UN system. In FY2014, Japan provided approximately \$18.5 million and contributed to efforts for women's political participation, economic empowerment,



Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Miki Yamada holds a meeting with Executive Director of UN Women Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka at the Global Conference on Ending Violence Against Women in December 2015.

ending violence against women and girls, strengthening women's roles in the fields of peace and security, and enhancing gender consideration in policy and budgets.

Japan considers that sexual violence in conflict is an issue that cannot be overlooked. In this regard, Japan attaches importance to collaborating with the United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG) and contributed \$2.55 million to the office in FY2014.

At TICAD V in June 2013, recognizing the empowerment of women and young people as one of the basic principles, Japan announced that it would promote efforts for the establishment of women's rights and the expansion of employment and education opportunities, working together with African countries, development partners, and others.

In addition, in September 2013, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe vowed to strengthen support for realizing "a society

Note 15: Source: The Millennium Development Goals Report 2015



where women shine” in his address at the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly. Specifically, the Prime Minister announced that Japan would implement ODA in excess of \$3 billion for the three years from 2013 to 2015 based on the three pillars of “Facilitating women’s active role/participation in society and women’s empowerment,” “Enhancing Japan’s efforts in the area of women’s health care as a part of its strategy on global health diplomacy,” and “Supporting women’s participation and protecting their rights in the area of peace and security.” In 2014, Japan provided approximately \$1.476 billion of assistance over the one-year period.

In September 2014, Japan hosted the first World Assembly for Women (WAW! 2014) as part of the efforts to realize “a society where women shine,” one of the most important agenda items of the government. Japan hosted, WAW! 2015 for the second time, in August 2015, in which 145 Japanese and overseas leaders of various

issues surrounding women participated from nearly double the number of participated countries in 2014. Following on from the previous year, the proposal was sent out as “WAW! To Do 2015” (UN document: A/C.3/70/3), a summary of the ideas and proposals from the participants.

When U.S. First Lady Michelle Obama visited Japan in March 2015, First Lady Akie Abe and Mrs. Obama announced that over ¥42 billion of ODA would be implemented over the three years from 2015 for fields related to the empowerment of girls and women and gender sensitive education.

In September 2015, in his address to the UN General Assembly, Prime Minister Abe announced the completion of Japan’s National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security regarding UN Security Council Resolution 1325. The Prime Minister also expressed Japan’s determination to lead the world in advancing the empowerment and active role of women.

## Glossary

### Gender mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming refers to a means of achieving societal gender equality in all fields. The Initiative on GAD defines gender mainstreaming in development as a process in which women’s and men’s development challenges and needs, as well as the impact of development on both men and women, are clarified throughout the processes of all development policy and intervention formulation, project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and are based on the premise that all development policies, interventions, and projects impact men and women differently.

## Côte d’Ivoire

### Supporting Social Cohesion through the Empowerment of Women Victims of Conflict in the Southern and Western Region of Côte d’Ivoire Assistance through UN Women (April 2014 – June 2015)

The western part of Côte d’Ivoire in Western Africa is one of the regions that has been hardest hit by civil war. The influx of refugees and returnees has increased the poverty rate and youth unemployment. Women in particular have fallen into poverty after having lost their job or the head of their household, and they are exposed to the risk of violence resulting from deteriorating public safety.

Moreover, the distrust between ethnic groups, which was exacerbated by the civil war, has become an impediment to the stability of society as a whole. The key to quickly improving this situation is to assist women affected by the conflict in becoming independent and participating in society.

Through the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), Japan has been providing assistance for income creation activities, social reconciliation and women’s rights awareness campaigns in the three regions of Tonkpi, Goma and Bas-Sassandra in Western Côte d’Ivoire since 2014.

Specifically, 45 organizations (965 people) for women and youth were organized to provide basic equipment for technical training and literacy classes, as well as to conduct assistance for agriculture and food processing industries, which helped to increase incomes. Participants also worked together in groups made up of different ethnicities, which helped to foster relationships of trust among people with different ethnic backgrounds. By raising awareness of women’s rights and social integration, the region is expected to see the greater empowerment of women and improved social stability.

With the assistance of Japan, gender equality is beginning to emerge in Côte d’Ivoire and many other places around the world.



Ambassador Hiroshi Kawamura visits a workshop for processing attieke (a dish made from granulated cassava). (Photo: UN Women)

## (6) Culture and Sports

In developing countries, there is a growing interest in the preservation and promotion of their own cultures. Cultural heritages that symbolize countries are not only sources of pride for their people, but are also resources that can be effectively utilized for tourism to develop the socio-economic environment of the people in surrounding areas. On the other hand, many cultural heritages in developing countries are exposed to dangers in terms of preservation and maintenance.

Assistance to protect cultural heritage is a form of cooperation that directly reaches the hearts of the people in those countries, and has long-term impacts. In addition, the preservation and promotion of culture, such as invaluable cultural heritage that is shared by all humankind, is an

### <Japan's Efforts>

Japan has contributed to the promotion of culture and higher education as well as preservation of cultural heritage in developing countries through Cultural Grant Assistance\* since 1975. Specifically, Japan has constructed facilities necessary for preserving and utilizing cultural heritage and cultural properties, sports and cultural facilities, and facilities of higher education and research institutions in developing countries. Japan has also provided the necessary equipment for these facilities. Those facilities built in developing countries serve as centers for providing information about Japan and for cultural exchanges with Japan, as well as for deepening understanding of Japan and fostering a sense of affinity towards Japan. In recent years, from the viewpoint of “Japan Promotion,” Japan has also emphasized support for Japanese language education and support that contributes to disseminating Japanese contents.

In FY2014, Japan proactively provided sports assistance using ODA to advance Sport for Tomorrow, a programme of international contribution through sports by which Japan expands sporting values and the Olympic and Paralympic

issue that should be addressed not only by the countries with cultural heritage in danger, but also by the entire international community.

Sports are popular with everyone, and anyone can easily take part in them regardless of their gender or age. Sports can enhance people's quality of life through maintenance and improvement of health. Furthermore, sports foster respect for opponents and cultivate a spirit of mutual understanding and awareness of norms, through competing in accordance with fair rules and sharing the same experience. The influence and positive power of sports play the role of “catalyzing” the development and growth of developing countries.



A Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer, Mr. Osamu Itoi has joined the swimming federation of the Chimborazo Province in central Ecuador and provides swimming lessons to young children. (Photo: Patty Siza)

movement as the host country of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo. Japan also provided other wide-ranging assistance, including assistance for the preservation of cultural heritage and assistance utilizing Japanese contents. In the area of sports assistance, Japan utilized Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects

to provide sports facilities and equipment to 12 countries, and dispatched 258 JICA volunteers in sports fields. Japan has also decided to utilize the Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects to assist with the preservation of cultural heritage, such as the projects for the improvement of equipment for preserving the collection of the National Museum of Mongolia and promoting culture in Old Havana in Cuba. In addition to the above, Japan provides Japanese documentations and educational TV programs in four countries.

Japan contributes to the restoration and preservation of cultural heritage, including equipment provision and preliminary studies and surveys, through the Japanese Funds-in-



Then Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Kazuyuki Nakane (front) observes a practice session of the National U19 Soccer Team of East Timor in July 2015.

Trust for the Preservation of the World Cultural Heritage established in UNESCO. Placing a particular emphasis on human resources development in developing countries, Japan also provides assistance by dispatching international experts, which mainly include Japanese experts, and holding workshops in order to transfer techniques and knowledge to developing countries. Japan furthermore supports the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage such as traditional dances, music, handcraft techniques, and oral traditions by implementing projects of successor training, records conservation, creation of safeguarding mechanisms, and other activities through the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage established in UNESCO.

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) implements the Cooperation Promotion Program for the Protection of World Heritage and Other Cultural Properties in the Asia-Pacific Region, in which it invites young experts on cultural heritage protection from the Asia-Pacific region to Japan for training.



Equipment provided under the Project for the Improvement of TV Programs and Broadcast Editing Equipment of Myanmar Radio and Television (MRTV) is used to input and edit subtitles for Japanese TV Programs. (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Myanmar)

## Glossary

### Cultural Grant Assistance

Cultural Grant Assistance provides funding to procure equipment and supplies, and improve facilities for the promotion of culture and higher education in developing countries. It is intended to encourage cultural and educational advancements in these countries as well as cultural exchanges between Japan and the countries, with a view to deepening friendships and mutual understanding. Cultural Grant Assistance includes General Cultural Grant Assistance, which provides assistance to governmental organizations, and Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects, which provides assistance to NGOs and local public entities for small-scale projects.

## Colombia

### Project for Improvement of Cayetano Cañizares Gymnasium Facilities Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects (February 2015 – July 2015)

Colombia is known as a soccer powerhouse and its national team appeared in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, where it faced off against Japan. In order to raise the quality of life of its citizens, Colombia is working to strengthen all sports. Efforts led by the Colombian Gymnastics Federation are also being made throughout the country to promote and improve the level of gymnastics. Given the high level of gymnastics in Japan, there are three Japanese gymnastics coaches currently working in Colombia.

However, Colombia's budget for sports is limited and practice facilities are not fully equipped. For example, many gymnasts suffered sprains or broken bones during practice at Cayetano Cañizares Gymnasium in Bogota D.C. This was because the facility had not been able to replace its old spring floor. Gymnasts were therefore not able to sufficiently absorb the impact to their bodies. Then, the Government of Japan provided a brand new spring floor for the gymnasium under the framework of Grant Assistance for Cultural Grassroots Projects.

As a result, 500 people are now able to use this gymnastic facility for training or classes. They are now able to practice in a safe environment without suffering excessive strain on their lower backs. A number of highly promising gymnasts currently train at the gymnasium day and night. They are expected to represent Colombia and compete at the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.



Performance by members of the gymnastics club at the equipment hand-over ceremony. (Photo: Embassy of Japan in Colombia)